

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING CONGRESSMAN MARTIN OLAV SABO'S CAREER OF PUBLIC SERVICE

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 27, 2006

Ms. McCOLLUM of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate a fellow Minnesotan, Congressman MARTIN SABO of Minneapolis, on his distinguished career of public service.

The neighboring cities of St. Paul and Minneapolis, MN, are known as the "Twin Cities." As the representative from St. Paul, it has been my privilege to serve in Congress with my "Twin brother" MARTIN SABO. After I was first elected to the U.S. House, he immediately became an expert mentor, always generous with time-tested insights. I will never forget the much-needed help he and his staff offered me as I made a difficult transition into Congress following the death of my predecessor, Congressman Bruce Vento. Six years on, we are partners working to solve the problems facing the families of St. Paul and Minneapolis. Through these collaborations, I have come to admire his wisdom—garnered through his personal experience, knowledge and integrity—and recognize what the Congress will lose following his much-deserved retirement.

Martin's public life began 45 years ago when he was elected to the Minnesota State House of Representatives at the young age of 22. He went on to serve with distinction as both House Speaker and minority leader until his election to Congress in 1978.

During his nine terms in the U.S. House of Representatives, Mr. SABO's patient dedication to results and sound governance earned him the respect and trust of his colleagues. In his position on the powerful Appropriations Committee, Congressman SABO directed federal funds to advance Minnesota's transportation system and improve the quality of life for U.S. soldiers and their families. As Chairman of the House Budget Committee in 1993, he played a central role in shaping and supporting President Clinton's landmark budget, which righted America's fiscal course and set the stage for years of unprecedented economic growth and prosperity.

Outside of the House Chamber and Capitol Hill committee rooms, Mr. SABO championed causes close to his heart. He promoted educational and cultural exchanges between the United States and Norway as a co-founder of the Friends of Norway Caucus in the House. As a fellow Norwegian, I can attest to the success of these exchanges in reinforcing the bonds between Minnesota and Norway. Mr. SABO also combined his passion for Minnesota Twins baseball with big league Washington politics by serving as the long-time manager for the Democratic squad at the annual congressional baseball game where, in my opinion, he equaled Minnesota Twin greats Tom Kelly and Ron Gardenhire.

Congressman SABO's tactical mastery and commonsense approach in the dugout is an

honest metaphor for his model of leadership in Congress. He worked on behalf of Minnesota in the tradition of Minnesotans—with quiet dignity, progressive ideals and intent of purpose. His instinct for good policy and a focus on the needs of real people over partisan politics has served his constituents and his country well. We are honored to inherit his legacy of a public life, honorably lived. While I am certain his wife Sylvia and his children and grandchildren look forward to spending more time with him, he will be dearly missed by his colleagues at the Capitol.

HONORING MR. GEORGE MARTIN FOR HIS LIFELONG COMMITMENT TO PEACE AND JUSTICE

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 27, 2006

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my constituent, Mr. George Paz Martin, a longtime activist, community leader and cherished friend who is being honored this month with the Lifetime Peacemaker Award by the Wisconsin Network for Peace and Justice. I can think of no more appropriate recipient for this award. Throughout his life, Mr. Martin has exhibited tireless activism, a limitless command of skills and approaches, and a relentless pursuit of justice and peace.

There is scarcely a social justice issue on which George Martin has not served a crucial leadership role. Coming of age in the civil rights movement, he fought for equality and desegregation in housing, education, and employment, among other things. He has served numerous organizations that provide community development and services for housing, healthcare, and economic development. An internationally renowned peace activist and Green Party leader, he is also extremely involved in local efforts to address the needs of the veterans' community.

Not only do his social justice interests know no bounds, but his combination of skills and approaches to the pursuit of justice make him a relentless champion. Having worked in the corporate world, he understands the utility of marketing and promotions in broadening the peace movement. He has built local, national and international coalitions against violence within neighborhoods and among nations. He is a highly sought-after public speaker, who has participated in nearly every major peace rally since the invasion of Iraq. He has traveled throughout the world building relationships with other peace movements, and serving as a witness to the devastation caused by war and violence.

Finally, Mr. Martin demonstrates seemingly limitless personal commitment. He brings care and compassion to every struggle. It is the hallmark of his style that he has crafted a movement against the Iraq war that takes ac-

count of the humanity of everyone involved, including those involved in the fighting, the policymakers, the peace leaders and those who support the war.

I am indebted to George for his expertise, his friendship, and the example of his leadership and I am honored to have this opportunity to thank him for his lifelong commitment to equality, peace, non-violence and justice.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CHAKA FATTAH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 27, 2006

Mr. FATTAH. Mr. Speaker, had I been present for the vote on H. Res. 1088 and H. Res. 1091, I would have voted "yea."

COMMENDING CHAIRMAN HENRY HYDE

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 27, 2006

Ms. McCOLLUM of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Chairman HENRY HYDE on a remarkable career and to congratulate him on his retirement from the U.S. Congress.

Chairman HYDE has honorably served the citizens of Illinois' 6th District since 1975. He has an impressive record of legislative accomplishments, has led two powerful committees and has been conferred 8 honorary degrees.

I have had the honor to serve under Chairman HYDE on the House International Relations Committee for the past four years. During a time of growing international pressures, he has led this committee with skill and dignity. His commitment to the integrity of the House has taught me a great deal about the legislative process. His respect for the minority, interest in listening to all voices and his common-sense leadership has been critical in ensuring civil debate and productive solutions to extremely difficult problems.

This leadership was evident during the successful passage of the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief, PEPFAR, which has helped to bring needed urgency and attention to this global crisis. Mr. HYDE and his committee staff enabled me, as a first term member, to ensure that my amendment to set aside 10 percent of funding for orphans and vulnerable children was passed as part of this bill. The enactment of this legislation is a testament to Mr. HYDE's ability to bring people and ideas together to make a real difference for families around the world.

In March of 2005, I had the pleasure of traveling with a congressional delegation led by Chairman HYDE to Mexico and Panama. We had the opportunity to meet with President

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